

**U.S. District Court**  
**Northern District of Georgia (Atlanta)**  
**CRIMINAL DOCKET FOR CASE #: 1:24-mj-00016-LTW-1**

Case title: USA v. Iduozee

Date Filed: 01/11/2024

Other court case number: 24-MJ-15 USDC Eastern District of Wisconsin Date Terminated: 01/11/2024

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Assigned to: Magistrate Judge  
Linda T. Walker

**Defendant (1)**

**Otaniyen Iduozee**

*TERMINATED: 01/11/2024*

represented by **Jaster Wesley Francis , Jr**  
Federal Defender Program  
101 Marietta Street Northwest  
Suite 1500  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-688-7530  
Email: [jaster\\_francis@fd.org](mailto:jaster_francis@fd.org)  
*LEAD ATTORNEY*  
*ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED*  
*Designation: Retained*

**Pending Counts**

None

**Disposition**

**Highest Offense Level (Opening)**

None

**Terminated Counts**

None

**Disposition**

**Highest Offense Level  
(Terminated)**

None

**Complaints**

18:1956(h); 18:1957(a); and  
18:1543

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**Disposition**

**Plaintiff**

USA

represented by **Gregory E. Radics**  
Office of the United States  
Attorney-ATL600  
Northern District of Georgia  
600 United States Courthouse  
75 Ted Turner Dr., S.W.  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
404-581-6265  
Fax: 404-581-6181  
Email: [gregory.radics@usdoj.gov](mailto:gregory.radics@usdoj.gov)  
**LEAD ATTORNEY**  
**ATTORNEY TO BE NOTICED**  
*Designation: Retained*

Date Filed	#	Page	Docket Text
01/11/2024			Arrest (Rule 40) of Otaniyen Iduozee (ane) (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024	<u>1</u>		ORDER APPOINTING FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER Jaster Wesley Francis, Jr. for Otaniyen Iduozee. Signed by Magistrate Judge Linda T. Walker on 1/11/2024. (ane) (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024	<u>2</u>		MOTION for Detention Pending Trial by USA as to Otaniyen Iduozee. (ane) Modified date on 1/12/2024 (ane). (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024	<u>3</u>		Minute Entry for proceedings held before Magistrate Judge Linda T. Walker: Initial Appearance in Rule 5(c)(3) Proceedings held on 1/11/2024 as to Otaniyen Iduozee. Defendant Waives identity and preliminary hearings. Commitment issue. Detention Hearing held granting <u>2</u> Governments Motion for Detention. (Tape #FTR) (ane) (Additional attachment(s) added on 1/12/2024: # <u>1</u> Charging Document) (ane). (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024	<u>4</u>		CJA 23 Financial Affidavit by Otaniyen Iduozee (ane) (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024	<u>5</u>		WAIVER of Rule 5 & 5.1 Hearings by Otaniyen Iduozee (ane) (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024	<u>6</u>		COMMITMENT TO ANOTHER DISTRICT as to Otaniyen Iduozee. Defendant committed to USDC Eastern District of Wisconsin. Signed by Magistrate Judge Linda T. Walker on 1/11/2024. (ane) (Entered: 01/12/2024)
01/11/2024			Magistrate Case Closed. Defendant Otaniyen Iduozee terminated. (ane) (Entered: 01/12/2024)

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

CASE NO. 1:24-mj-00016

OTANIYEN IDUOZEE,

Defendant.

**ORDER APPOINTING COUNSEL**

JASTER FRANCIS

The above-named defendant has testified under oath or has filed with the Court an affidavit of financial status and hereby satisfied this Court that he or she is financially unable to employ counsel.

Accordingly, the **FEDERAL DEFENDER PROGRAM, INC.**, is hereby appointed to represent this defendant in the above-captioned case unless relieved by an Order of this Court or by Order of the Court of Appeals.

Dated at Atlanta, Georgia this 11<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2024.



Linda N. Walker  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA  
ATLANTA DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Criminal Action No.  
1:24-MJ-00016

OTANIYEN IDUOZEE

**Government's Motion for Detention Pending Trial**

The United States of America, by counsel, Ryan K. Buchanan, United States Attorney, and Gregory E. Radics, Assistant United States Attorney for the Northern District of Georgia, moves for detention under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f), asks leave of Court to supplement this motion with additional grounds or presumptions for detention, and requests that the Court conduct a hearing (*check one*):

at initial appearance; OR  
 after a continuance of        (*insert number, up to 3*) days.

**Eligibility of Case**

This case is eligible for a detention order because it involves (*check all that apply*):

A crime of violence as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 3156(4)\*;  
 A violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1591 (sex trafficking of children);\*†  
 A federal crime of terrorism listed in 18 U.S.C. § 2332b(g)(5)(B) with a statutory maximum of 10 years or more;\*†  
 An offense having a maximum sentence of life imprisonment or death,\*  
An offense in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 801 *et seq.*), the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. § 951 *et seq.*), or Chapter 705 of Title 46 with a statutory maximum of 10 years or more;\*†  
 Any felony, if the defendant has been convicted of 2 or more offenses described above or 2 or more state or local offenses that would have been offenses described above if a circumstance giving rise to federal jurisdiction had existed, or a combination of such;\*  
 Any felony that is not otherwise a crime of violence that involves a minor victim, the possession or use of a firearm or destructive device (including 18 U.S.C. § 924(c)†), or any other dangerous weapon, or involves a failure to register under 18 U.S.C. § 2250;\*  
 A serious risk that the defendant will flee;

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\* These offenses are described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1).

† These offenses qualify for the rebuttable presumption under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3), as do: 1) any offense under Title 18, Chapter 77 (§§ 1581-1597, concerning peonage, slavery, and trafficking in persons) with a statutory maximum of 20+ years; 2) any offense under 18 U.S.C. §§ 956(a) (domestic conspiracy to kill, kidnap, maim or injure abroad), or 2332b (international terrorism); and 3) an offense involving a minor victim under 18 U.S.C. §§ 1201, 1591, 2241, 2242, 2244(a)(1), 2245, 2251, 2251A, 2252(a)(1), 2252(a)(2), 2252(a)(3), 2252A(a)(1), 2252A(a)(2), 2252A(a)(3), 2252A(a)(4), 2260, 2421, 2422, 2423 or 2425.

A serious risk that the defendant will obstruct or attempt to obstruct justice, or threaten, injure, or intimidate a prospective witness or juror, or attempt to do so.

**Rebuttable Presumptions (check any that apply)**

The United States hereby invokes the rebuttable presumption under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(3) that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the defendant as required and the safety of the community. *(Invoke only if a qualifying offense described above is charged.)*

The United States hereby invokes the rebuttable presumption under 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e)(2), which applies in certain situations where a defendant has previously committed an offense while on bond. It applies here because defendant is now charged with an offense described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1), previously committed a different offense described in 18 U.S.C. § 3142(f)(1) (or a state law analog of such an offense) while on bond, and no more than 5 years have elapsed since the later of the conviction for said offense and the release of the defendant from imprisonment for same.

**Reasons for Detention**

The Court should detain defendant because there are no conditions of release that will reasonably assure *(check all that apply):*

- the appearance of the person as required;
- the safety of any other person and the community.

**Additional Information**

**Arguments:**

- The defendant is a Nigerian citizen.
  - The defendant previously had an F1 visa; canceled in Feb. 2022 due to failure to enroll in school.
  - According to CIS documents, he had a wife in Nigeria who he “divorced” in Dec. 2021, and he then married a US Citizen in June 2022.
  - As a result of his marriage to the U.S. Citizen, he is now a conditional Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR).
    - His being charged with a felony will likely prevent him from completing the 2-year probationary period to become an LPR.
    - In addition, CIS is aware of indicia that his marriage to the U.S. Citizen is a sham. For example, after he supposedly “divorced” his Nigerian wife, she applied for a non-immigrant visa, along with their two children, to study at the same school that Iduozee was supposed to attend.
- The defendant has regularly and recently traveled to Nigeria.
  - E.g., the defendant was in Nigeria Dec. 2021 – January 2022.
  - He left for Nigeria again in October of 2023 and just got back yesterday (January 10, 2024 (at time of arrest).
- Defendant is involved in an extensive romance scam/money laundering scheme, which is ongoing as described in the complaint.

- There are additional victims throughout the United States, beyond the one described in the complaint affidavit.
- The evidence indicates he has participated in laundering over \$5M in U.S. funds.
- The evidence further indicates he used multiple fraudulent passports to access/control bank accounts into which victim funds were deposited.
- Two other defendants are currently indicted for same scheme – both also Nigerian citizens
  - The first, Shedrack Umukoro, is in custody because the Government apprehended him at Atlanta in April of 2023 and he has been detained; currently set for trial in April, 2024.
  - The second, John Umukoro, has been a fugitive since April of 2023. He has taken active steps to evade law enforcement (e.g., not using phone/social media, never returning to his home address, limiting contact with his wife, etc.).
- The evidence indicates that Iduozee was conspiring with the Umukoros.
  - The Umukoros controlled the fake online persona ("Anthony Williams") who defrauded our Wisconsin victim, instructing her to send money to accounts accessed or controlled by Iduozee.
- If Iduozee is released, there is every reason to think he will join John Umukoro in fugitive status.
  - Indeed, he appears to already have access to numerous fraudulent passports (as described in the complaint affidavit at pages 4-16).
- The evidence against the defendant is strong (*See* complaint affidavit) and he is facing a statutory maximum of 40 years in prison.
- At the time of his arrest on January 10, 2024, the defendant told the arresting agents:
  - He has no family, friends, or a place to stay in Atlanta.
  - He has no cash or means to access funds.
- Similarly, we are aware of no family, friends, or a place to stay in the Eastern District of Wisconsin.
  - All these facts make Iduozee even less likely to stay in the United States awaiting trial.
- Iduozee's parents live in Nigeria and have a house there. Iduozee is not a citizen of the United States, and this conviction would likely result in his removability.
- Even if Iduozee turned over his passports as part of bond conditions, he can go to the Nigerian Consulate in Atlanta and obtain a new passport relatively quickly – by informing the consulate that he has lost his. In such instance of a "lost passport," there is no communication between the consulate and U.S. authorities.<sup>‡</sup>
- However, any removability issue would only occur after a substantial prison term – he is facing a projected guideline range of roughly 78-97 months before acceptance (OL 28, CHC I)

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<sup>‡</sup> This information was obtained from Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Enforcement and Removal Division, on January 11, 2024 and is based upon factual events in other cases.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 11, 2024

75 Ted Turner Drive S.W., Suite 600  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3309  
Phone: (404) 581-6000  
Fax: (404) 581-6181

RYAN K. BUCHANAN  
United States Attorney

*Gregory E. Radics*

GREGORY E. RADICS  
Assistant United States Attorney  
Ga. Bar No. 591724

**Certificate of Service**

The U.S. Attorney's Office served this document today by handing a copy to defense counsel:

Judy Fleming, Federal Defender's Inc.

January 11, 2024

*Gregory E. Radics*  
s/ GREGORY E. RADICS

## MAGISTRATE'S CRIMINAL MINUTES - REMOVALS (Rule 5 &amp; 5.1)

FILED IN OPEN COURT

DATE: 01/11/2024 @ 1:30 pmTAPE: FTRTIME IN COURT: 45 MINSMAGISTRATE JUDGE LINDA T. WALKER CASECOURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK: Traci Clements CampbellNUMBER: 1:24-mj-00016DEFENDANT'S NAME: Otaniyen IduozeeAUSA: Gregory RadicsDEFENDANT'S ATTY: Jaster FrancisUSPO / PTR: Skyra Watson

() Retained ( ) CJA (X) FDP ( ) Waived

ARREST DATE \_\_\_\_\_

 Initial appearance hearing held.

Defendant informed of rights.

Interpreter sworn: \_\_\_\_\_

COUNSEL ORDER appointing Federal Defender as counsel for defendant.

ORDER appointing \_\_\_\_\_ as counsel for defendant.

ORDER: defendant to pay attorney's fees as follows: \_\_\_\_\_

IDENTITY / PRELIMINARY HEARING Defendant WAIVES identity hearing. WAIVER FILED

Identity hearing HELD. \_\_\_\_\_ Def is named def. in indictment/complaint; held for removal to other district.

 Defendant WAIVES preliminary hearing in this district only. WAIVER FILED

Preliminary hearing HELD. \_\_\_\_\_ Probable cause found; def. held to District Court for removal to other district

 Commitment issued. Order to follow.BOND/PRETRIAL DETENTION HEARING Government motion for detention filed . \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Pretrial hearing set for \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) In charging district.)

 Bond/Pretrial detention hearing held. Government motion for detention (X) GRANTED ( ) DENIED

Pretrial detention ordered. \_\_\_\_\_ Written order to follow.

BOND set at \_\_\_\_\_ NON-SURETY \_\_\_\_\_ SURETY

cash \_\_\_\_\_ property \_\_\_\_\_ corporate surety ONLY

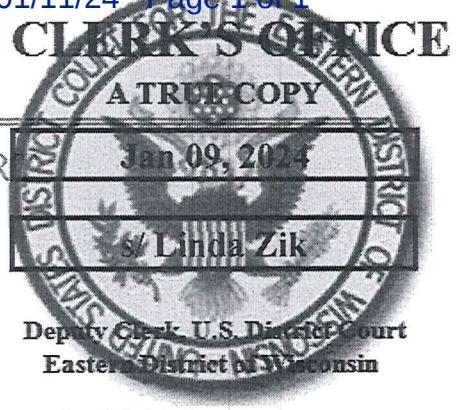
SPECIAL CONDITIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

Bond filed. Defendant released.

Bond not executed. Defendant to remain in Marshal's custody.

Motion \_\_\_\_\_ (verbal) to reduce/revoke bond filed.

Motion to reduce/revoke bond \_\_\_\_\_ GRANTED See \_\_\_\_\_ DENIED



AO 91 (Rev. 11/11) Criminal Complaint

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

for the

Eastern District of Wisconsin

United States of America

v.

Otaniyen Iduozee

Case No.

2809088

24-MJ-15

*Defendant(s)*

## CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

I, the complainant in this case, state that the following is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

On or about the date(s) of December 2021 - January 2022 in the county of Waukesha in the Eastern District of Wisconsin, the defendant(s) violated:*Code Section**Offense Description*

18 U.S.C. § 1956(h); 18 U.S.C. § 1957(a); and 18 U.S.C. § 1543.

Money laundering conspiracy; money laundering—transactions over \$10,000; and use of false passports.

This criminal complaint is based on these facts:

See attached Affidavit.

 Continued on the attached sheet.GARY M ROY

Digitally signed by GARY M ROY

Date: 2024.01.08 17:01:10 -06'00'

Complainant's signature

SA Gary Roy, DHS/HSI

Printed name and title

Sworn via telephone; transmitted via email  
pursuant to Fed. R. Crim. 4.1Date: 01/09/2024

Judge's signature

City and state: Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Hon. William E. Duffin, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Printed name and title

**FINANCIAL AFFIDAVIT**

IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR ATTORNEY EXPENSE OR OTHER SERVICES WITHOUT PAYMENT OF FEES

IN THE UNITED STATES  DISTRICT COURT  COURT OF APPEALS

IN THE CASE OF

- 1:24 MJ 016

V.

 OTHER (Specify Below)

FOR

AT

LOCATION NUMBER

PERSON REPRESENTED (Show your full name)

Otanijen Idmozee

CHARGE/OFFENSE (Describe if applicable &amp; check box→)

 Felony Misdemeanor

1  Defendant - Adult  
 2  Defendant - Juvenile  
 3  Appellant  
 4  Probation Violator  
 5  Supervised Release Violator  
 6  Habeas Petitioner  
 7  2255 Petitioner  
 8  Material Witness  
 9  Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

DOCKET NUMBERS
Magistrate Judge
District Court
Court of Appeals

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS REGARDING ABILITY TO PAY**

<b>EMPLOYMENT</b>		Do you have a job? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, how much do you earn per month? _____ Will you still have a job after this arrest? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
<b>INCOME &amp; ASSETS</b>	<b>PROPERTY</b>	Do you own any of the following, and if so, what is it worth? <b>APPROXIMATE VALUE</b> <b>DESCRIPTION &amp; AMOUNT OWED</b>	
		Home \$ _____	_____
	Car/Truck/Vehicle \$ _____	_____	
	Boat \$ _____	_____	
	Stocks/bonds \$ _____	_____	
	Other property \$ _____	_____	
	Do you have any cash, or money in savings or checking accounts? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No IF YES, give the total approximate amount after monthly expenses \$ _____		
<b>OBLIGATIONS, EXPENSES, &amp; DEBTS</b>	How many people do you financially support? _____		
	<b>BILLS &amp; DEBTS</b>	<b>MONTHLY EXPENSE</b>	<b>TOTAL DEBT</b>
	Housing	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Groceries	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Medical expenses	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Utilities	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Credit cards	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Car/Truck/Vehicle	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Childcare	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Child support	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Insurance	\$ _____	\$ _____
	Loans	\$ _____	\$ _____
Fines	\$ _____	\$ _____	
Other	\$ _____	\$ _____	

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

*K. A.*  
SIGNATURE OF DEFENDANT  
(OR PERSON SEEKING REPRESENTATION)

*1/11/2024*

Date

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN

DISTRICT OF

GEORGIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## WAIVER OF RULE 5 &amp; 5.1 HEARINGS

(Complaint/Indictment)

V.

CASE NUMBER: 1:24-mj00016

OTANIYEN IDUOZEE

Defendant

CHARGING DISTRICTS

CASE NUMBER: 24-mj-15

I understand that charges are pending in the EASTERN District of WISCONSIN

alleging violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1956(h); 18 U.S.C. § 1957(a); and 18 U.S.C. § 1543 and that I have been arrested in this district and  
(Title and Section)

taken before a judge, who has informed me of the charge(s) and my rights to:

- (1) retain counsel or request the assignment of counsel if I am unable to retain counsel;
- (2) an identity hearing to determine whether I am the person named in the charges;
- (3) a preliminary hearing (unless an indictment has been returned or information filed) to determine whether there is probable cause to believe an offense has been committed by me, the hearing to be held in this district or the district of prosecution; and
- (4) Request transfer of the proceedings to this district under Rule 20, Fed. R. Crim. P., in order to plead guilty.

## I HEREBY WAIVE (GIVE UP) MY RIGHT TO A(N):

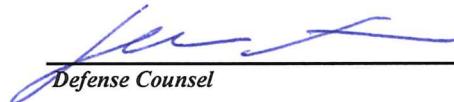
identity hearing

preliminary hearing

identity hearing but request a preliminary hearing be held in the prosecuting district and, therefore, consent to the issuance of an order requiring my appearance in the prosecuting district where the charges are pending against me.



Defendant



Defense Counsel

1/11/2024

Date

## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

NORTHERN

District of

GEORGIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
V.COMMITMENT TO ANOTHER  
DISTRICT

OTANIYEN IDUOZEE

## DOCKET NUMBER

## MAGISTRATE/JUDGE CASE NUMBER

District of Arrest

District of Offense

District of Arrest

District of Offense

24-MJ-15

1:24-mj-00016

## CHARGES AGAINST THE DEFENDANT ARE BASED UPON AN

 Indictment       Information       Complaint       Other (specify)

charging a violation of      18      U.S.C. § 1956(h); 1957(a); and 1543

## DISTRICT OF OFFENSE

Eastern District of Wisconsin

## DESCRIPTION OF CHARGES:

Money laundering conspiracy; money laundering—transactions over \$10,000; and use of false passports.

## CURRENT BOND STATUS:

Bail fixed at \_\_\_\_\_ and conditions were not met  
 Government moved for detention and defendant detained after hearing in District of Arrest  
 Government moved for detention and defendant detained pending detention hearing in District of Offense  
 Other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Representation:       Retained Own Counsel       Federal Defender Organization       CJA Attorney       NoneInterpreter Required?       No       Yes      Language: \_\_\_\_\_

NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

## TO: THE UNITED STATES MARSHAL

You are hereby commanded to take custody of the above named defendant and to transport that defendant with a certified copy of this commitment forthwith to the district of offense as specified above and there deliver the defendant to the United States Marshal for that District or to some other officer authorized to receive the defendant.

1/11/2024

Date

Judge

RETURN

This commitment was received and executed as follows:

DATE COMMITMENT ORDER RECEIVED		PLACE OF COMMITMENT	DATE DEFENDANT COMMITTED
DATE	UNITED STATES MARSHAL	(BY) DEPUTY MARSHAL	